

British Army 805,000; Its Cost is \$154,449,000.

London, By Cable.—The army estimates for 1909-1910 provide for a grand total of 804,973 men, as compared with 799,610 men in 1908-'09. This includes the regular force, which stands at 183,200 men, as compared with 185,000 men last year, as well as the reserves, the militia, and the territorial forces. These are slightly above last year.

AS TO NEWSPAPERS.

It is foolish to argue that county papers are not necessary and proper in the intelligent dissemination of information, or that they are not necessary to properly inform their constituency fully as to the various matters of importance which arise in every county. They perform a very important part in the newspaper life of the world, and a newspaper should support its daily paper in good faith. It is the duty of every man who can afford it, to own a daily newspaper. The Observer Company, of Charlotte, N. C., publishes every morning The Daily Observer, carrying full telegraphic news from every part of the world, full news of the State in general, and a variety of editorial comment, presenting views of all sides on every question, all of which tends to improve the thinker, makes broader-minded people and develops independent thought. The Observer Company also publishes every afternoon The Evening Chronicle, and every Tuesday and Friday The Semi-Weekly Observer. In a general way, all these papers strive to attain the same end—the making of a paper which will be a welcome visitor to every man's home, and to be a means of enlightenment. The Observer is \$3.00 per year; \$2.00 for three months. The Chronicle is \$5.00 per year; \$1.25 per three months. The Semi-Weekly Observer is \$1.00 per year; 25 cents per three months.

Sample copies will gladly be sent upon request. "The price may seem high, but the recollection of quality remains long after price is forgotten."

"Taft," King Possum, "Licked."

At the Bronx Zoological Gardens, New York, a new ant eater from South America proved that he knows his rights and can assert them. There was no cage for his reception, and he was put with the possums. He found possum society in a state of abject submission, an absolutism pure and simple having been established, with one Taft as the unquestioned monarch. "Taft" is a possum of great size and beauty, which was presented to the gardens about a month ago by a friend of the President and whose pleasure it has since been to remind the other possums of their lowly and plebeian condition. "Taft" surveyed the ant eater with a glance of superior disdain and undertook to show him his place. The ant eater took it quietly enough until today, when Taft nosed him away from the supply of food. The South American has long claws, which he doubles up like a fist when not engaged in raking anthills for breakfast, and he lost no time in entering the ring. It was a lively go, testing one short round, in which poor "Taft" went down under a bewildering shower of blows. When it was over the unthrone monarch sought a very small corner and owned defeat.

It is possible to teach a man what he doesn't know by telling him what he does.

CONGENIAL WORK And Strength to Perform It.

A person in good health is likely to have a genial disposition, ambition and enjoy work. On the other hand, if the digestive organs have been upset by wrong food, work becomes drudgery. "Until recently," writes a Washington girl, "I was a railroad stenographer, which means full work every day. "Like many other girls alone in a large city, I lived at a boarding house. For breakfast it was mush, greasy meat, soggy cakes, black coffee, etc. "After a few months of this diet I used to feel sleepy and heavy in the mornings. My work seemed a terrible effort, and I thought the work was to blame—too arduous. "At home I had heard my father speak of a young fellow who went long distances in the cold on Grape-Nuts and cream and nothing more for breakfast. "I concluded if it would tide him over a morning's heavy work, it might help me, so on my way home one night I bought a package, and next morning I had Grape-Nuts and milk for breakfast. "I stuck to Grape-Nuts, and in less than two weeks I noticed improvement. I can't just tell how well I felt, but I remember I used to walk the 12 blocks to business and knew how good it was simply to live. "As to my work—well, did you ever feel the delight of having congenial work and the strength to perform it? That's how I felt. I truly believe there's life and vigor in every grain of Grape-Nuts. "I am given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Rec. 'The Road to Wellville,' in pgs. "There's a Reason." "Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest."

The Sunday-School

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR MARCH 14.

Subject: Aeneas and Dorcas, Acts 9: 32-43—Golden Text, Acts 9:34—Commit Verses 40, 41—Commentary on the Lesson.

TIME.—40 A. D. (?) PLACES.—Lydda, Joppa.

EXPOSITION.—I. A Great Revival in Lydda and Sharon, 32-35. Step by step God was leading Peter on toward the opening of the door to the Gentiles—Lydda, Joppa, Caesarea. Aeneas is the only citizen of Lydda whose name is mentioned in the Bible. The only great thing about him, apparently, was his great need. But there is nothing more likely to attract God's notice than need (Luke 1:53). Aeneas was apparently not even a disciple when Peter met him. He is spoken of as "a certain man" (comp. v. 26; ch. 3:2; 10:1; 14:8; 9:10). There did not appear to be much hope for this man. That day opened as all others had for eight years. It closed differently from all others, because the day he met a man who knew Christ and brought the mighty power of Jesus Christ into his life. Doubtless Peter had met with many afflicted ones in his journeys from place to place, but God had not spoken the word to him and so he had not spoken it to them. But now God did speak it to Peter—ever-listening heart and with unhesitating faith. Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole." Wonderful words. Words that might be spoken to many a palsied man to-day. Peter's pity was not of the sentimental, but active kind. He saw the man's dire need. He knew one who could help him. He brought the two together. Peter was an apt scholar (comp. Jno. 5:8; comp. also, v. 40 with Luke 8:54). It is noteworthy how Peter keeps himself in the background. He fixes the attention of Aeneas on Jesus Christ. His perfect confidence is also noteworthy. He saw very clearly that he was only an instrument. He saw, with equal clearness, that Jesus Christ could and would use even him. Peter's faith responds to the word of power; he arises straightway. The miracle simply opened the way for the Word. There is a wide gulf between Peter and many modern so-called "healers."

II. Great Revival in Joppa, 36-43. Joppa was no insignificant town. There were people of wealth and influence there. But the name of only a single person in that place has come down to us, the name of a humble woman. Her name shines very brightly on the pages of history, and her story has been an inspiration to many. Why? "This woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did." That is real greatness, and it is open to all. Note that she was "full" of these good works and almsdeeds. She was a disciple indeed (Jno. 15:8; comp. also, Jas. 1:27; 1 Jno. 3:14, 16, 17; Tit. 2:14; 3:8; Col. 1:10). Note, also, that she was not full of good works which she intended to do, but was full of good works "which she did." She seems to have had no relatives or mother to all, and so she had many friends. Being full of good works and almsdeeds, did not exempt her from sickness, sickness even unto death. God evidently has other purposes in sickness than the chastisement of our sin and the humbling of our pride (comp. Jno. 9:5; Jno. 11:3, 4; 2 K. 13:14). It won't do to decide too hastily that the one who falls sick, or even dies, has in some way wandered away from God. These disciples had a mighty faith. There had been no cases of resurrection, so far as we know. In the ten years that had elapsed since the resurrection of Christ. Yet those humble disciples believed in a living God and a living Christ, and that, now that there was need of a resurrection from the dead, God would grant it, and He did. Showing the coats and garments Dorcas made. "It was a most worthy monument that Dorcas had built with a needle. Many have gazed at it and been inspired to acts of love and sacrifice. Note that she made these garments 'while she was with them.' Peter puts them all forth." Peter was following very closely in the footsteps of his Master (Luke 8:52, 54). In such a supreme moment as this one wants no spectators; he must be alone with God. He "prayed." Ah, what power there is in prayer! It can raise the dead. Have you a dead minister, try it on him. Have you a dead church, try it on it. Have you a friend "dead in trespasses and sins," try it on him. If Peter had spent his time grumbling at that corpse it would never have come to life. Praying, not grumbling, is what we want to-day. He first turned to God, then to the corpse. Here is a lesson for Christian workers. When you have laid hold of God by prayer as Peter did, then you can lay hold of corpses by word as Peter did also, and they will rise. Turning to the sleeping one, he said: "Tabitha, arise." Those eyes, so long closed, open. Oh, some bright day Jesus Himself will say it to all our sleeping loved ones, and their eyes shall open, and they, too, shall arise, never to sleep again (Jno. 5:28, 29). Peter gave her his hand and raised her up just as he had seen Jesus do to his own mother-in-law (Mark 1:31). The wonder that had been done soon spread throughout Joppa. It was a conclusive proof of the power of Jesus' name.

The determination of Trinity to sell much of its tenement property for improvement is wise, pronounces the New York World. An income of less than 2-1/2 per cent. is not what the church ought to receive, yet its trustees may not feel like borrowing large sums for extensive improvement. The public benefit will be the same. The buyers will improve the old houses and Trinity will or should get a better income.

Proverbs and Phrases

Greedy eye never gets good bargains.—Dutch. A thistle is a fat salad for an ass' mouth.—Italian. Assist yourself and Heaven will assist you.—German. How fading are the joys we dote upon, like apparitions seen and gone.—Nerris. If you would enjoy your raiment, pay for it before you wear it.—Danish.

BABY HORRIBLY BURNED

By Boiling Grease—Skin All Came Off One Side of Face and Head—Thought Her Disfigured For Life—Used Cuticura: No Scar Left. "My baby was sitting beside the fender and we were preparing the breakfast when the frying-pan full of boiling grease was upset and it went all over one side of her face and head. Some one wiped the scald with a towel, pulling the entire skin off. We took her to a doctor. He tended her a week and gave me some stuff to put on. But it all festered and I thought the baby was disfigured for life. I used about three boxes of Cuticura Ointment and it was wonderful how it healed. In about five weeks it was better and there wasn't a mark to tell where the scald had been. Her skin is just like velvet. Mrs. Hare, 1 Henry St., South Shields, Durham, England, March 22, 1908."

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A thief knows a thief as a wolf knows a wolf.

FACTS

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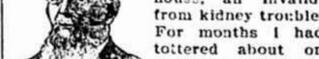
It is often the blunt man who is the sharpest.—March Lippincott's.

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Gray hairs are death's blossoms.—French.

YEARS OF IT.

A Dark Picture to Look Back Upon. John Corey, Constable, Attica, N. Y., says: "From September 1896, to March, 1897, I was confined to the house, an invalid, from kidney trouble. For months I had tottered about on crutches, a discouraged and despairing man. I was practically crippled with lumbago. I decided to try Doan's Kidney Pills and a short while after I began using them I was able to walk. After taking seven boxes I threw away my crutches and the lumbago has not returned from that day to this. Through using Doan's Kidney Pills I am to-day a healthy man."



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